

REMARKS

Before this response, claims 1-38 and 49-58 were pending. Applicants have canceled claim 16 and have amended claims 1, 6, 20, 27, 35, and 49. No claims have been added. Accordingly, claims 1-15, 17-38 and 49-58 are now pending.

Claims 1-5, 8-15, 17-19 and 35

The Examiner objected to claims 16, 35 and indicated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants have amended claim 1 to include all of the limitations of claim 16 and claim 1 and have amended claim 35 to place claim 35 in independent form. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that claims 1 and 35 are allowable.

Regarding claims 2-5, 8-15, and 17-19, these claims depend from claim 1 which applicants respectfully submit is allowable. Accordingly, claims 2-5, 8-15, and 17-19 are allowable for at least the reason that these claims depend from an allowable base claim.

Claims 6, and 7

The Examiner objected to claims 6 and indicated that this claim would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants have amended claim 6 in independent form to include all of the limitations of claim 1, claim 5 and claim 6. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that claim 6 is allowable.

Claim 7 depends from claim 6 which applicants respectfully submit is allowable. Accordingly, claim 7 is at least allowable for the reason that it depends from an allowable base claim.

Claims 20-34

The Examiner rejected claim 20 under 35 U.S.C 102(b) as being anticipated by Gutowski (US 5,536,011). Applicants respectfully submit that claim 20 is allowable.

As amended, claim 20 recites a golf club head comprising “a golf club head body having a curved surface extending inwardly from a front peripheral surface” and “a laminated golf club head face connected to the golf club head at the peripheral front surface to form a hollow interior between the laminated golf club head face and an inner surface of the golf club head body”. Applicants respectfully submit that Gutowski does not disclose or show this feature. The golf club head in Gutowski includes a face and a backing weight. The face is a flat section of metallic alloy and does not include a curved surface that extends inwardly from a peripheral

from surface. The golf club head in Gutowski is solid. The claimed golf club head, however, is hollow. Applicants respectfully submit that Gutowski does discuss or show all of the limitations of claim 20 and that claim 20 is allowable.

Regarding claims 21-34, these claims depend from claim 20 which applicants respectfully submit is allowable. Accordingly, claims 21-34 are allowable for at least the reason that these claims depend from an allowable base claim.

Claims 49-58

The Examiner rejected claim 49 under 35 U.S.C 102(b) as being anticipated by Gutowski (US 5,536,011). Applicants respectfully submit that claim 49 is allowable.

As amended, claim 49 recites a golf club head face a front face and back face, “the back face having a tensile strength greater than or equal to a tensile strength of the front face and a plasticity less than or equal to a plasticity of the front face”. Applicants respectfully submit that this feature is not shown or discussed in Gutowski.

Regarding claims 50-58, these claims depend from claim 49 which applicants respectfully submit is allowable. Accordingly, claims 50-58 are allowable for at least the reason that these claims depend from an allowable base claim.

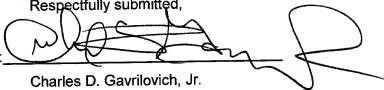
Claims 8, 27 and 56

The Examiner objected to claims 8, 27, and 56 for formalities. The Examiner stated that it was not understood how the back face contains a gas. Applicants respectfully submit these claims to not recite that the back face contains a gas. The claims recite that “the back face is sealed to the front face around the periphery of the back face and a sealed region between the front face and the back face contains a gas”. Accordingly, the sealed region between the front face and the back face contains a gas.

REQUEST FOR ALLOWANCE

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that all pending claims in the application are patentable. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of this application are earnestly solicited. Should any issues remain unsolved, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at the number provided below.

Date: February 17, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

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